# America

January 28, 1950 Vol. 82, Number 17

#### NATIONAL CATHOLIC WEEKLY REVIEW

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New York, under act of Mar. 3, 1879. AMERICA, National Catholic Weekly Review. Registered U.S. Patent Office. Taft-Hartley saving Lewis?

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As the coal dispute moved into its seventh month, the possibility that John L. Lewis had lost control of his membership overshadowed all other developments. Up till now, Lewis' slightest suggestion has been law for the nation's 400,000 soft-coal diggers. Last week cracks appeared in the monolithic structure of the United Mine Workers. The men were going their own way, and it was not the way, apparently, of John L. Lewis. When the "checkerboard" strikes began two weeks ago-strategic mines which had been on a union-dictated three-day week were suddenly shut down tight-observers saw in them the fine hand of Mr. Lewis. Perhaps they were right. On January 11, however, Lewis "suggested" that the miners go back to work on a three-day week. Thousands of them, after duly considering the "suggestion," voted to stay out. Here was something to write home about. Were the miners really rebelling against their boss because they wanted a full week, or was all this elaborate regard for democratic procedure only another Lewis maneuver to put pressure on the operators? By Monday, despite seemingly sincere efforts of union representatives to persuade the men to return, 70,000 of them were still on strike and the number was growing hourly. Then came the clincher. The U. S. Steel Corporation suddenly cut off credit at all company stores. So did many of the Southern operators. They were betting that the revolt was on the level, that the men were "fed up" with the three-day week and wanted stable, full-time employment. In the face of these developments, the decision of Robert Denham, general counsel of NLRB, to seek a Taft-Hartley injunction against Lewis (Am. 1/14, p. 448) assumed a completely new significance. A court order ending the three-day week and forcing resumption of negotiations might be a godsend to the hard-pressed mine leader. It could conceivably save his face and help restore his authority over the miners. If that happens, put it down as the paradox of the year.

#### Greedy bricklayers

Not many miles from our editorial offices-on Staten Island, if the curious reader must know-a building is very slowly rising above the ground. It is rising much more slowly than the owners had anticipated and the construction company had promised, because only two bricklayers out of fourteen are on the job. The twelve absentees refuse to work unless, in addition to their regular union-scale wage of \$118.30 a week, they are paid a weekly bonus of \$20. The construction company refuses to pay the bonus. Since it signed an agreement some time ago with a builders' association not to pay more than the union scale, it does not feel morally free to do so. Under the circumstances we wonder how the bricklayers justify this unconscionable conduct. Were one to ask them, they would probably reply that they are only doing what many a businessman does-they are playing the law of supply and demand for all it is worth. This, of course, is no answer at all, as the men themselves, in the secrecy of their hearts, well realize. Greed is greed no matter who is guilty of it. If some of

## CURRENT COMMENT

the building-trade unions want to know why they suffer in the public estimation, they might candidly examine what the bricklayers are up to on Staten Island.

#### Medical schools and the doctor supply

The complexity of the problem of adequate medical care for all Americans is well illustrated by the related problem of training doctors to provide the care. "Petrillo economics" explains why less than 7,000 of the 25,000 collegians hoping to be doctors were accepted in medical schools this year; a deliberate "rationing" of careers in medicine explains why from 1905 to 1945, with the nation's population virtually doubling, the number of medical schools decreased by 81 and their average output of physicians is smaller by 512. This charge was made by the influential 250-man American Conference of Academic Deans, meeting at Cincinnati on January 9 in conjunction with the annual convention of the Association of American Colleges. A recent Federal Security Agency bulletin, Health Service Areas, omits all editorializing but offers the same conclusion: there will be a shortage of physicians by 1960 unless enrolments in medical schools are substantially increased. Rebuttal was promptly offered to the Academic Deans by Dr. Joseph C. Hinsey, dean of Cornell University Medical School and president of the 60-year-old Association of American Medical Colleges. Dr. Hinsey's points: "Diploma mill" schools are happily things of the past; so, too, is the insufficient training given under wartime accelerated programs; this year's freshman class is 9 per cent larger than last year's; the annual increase in doctors, estimated by subtracting the number of deaths in the profession from the number of medical graduates, is 2,000. "This increment," Dr. Victor Johnson, director of the Mayo Foundation, promises, "will increase with the evolutionary growth of medical schools and will continue to exceed the annual increase in the population at large."

#### Unanswered (and unasked) questions

Involved in the discussion were some unspoken questions. What, for example, is good medical training? More intense specialization to fit graduates for group practice, says Columbia's Dean Willard C. Rappleye. Let's find out if the medical student really must learn the techniques of every specialty, says an AAMC-AMA committee under President Alan Valentine of the University of Rochester. What is an adequate supply of

doctors? One for every 667 persons, the proportion obtaining in the 12 States with the most medical manpower? Then we will be 42,000 physicians short by 1960, says the Ewing Report, The Nation's Health. Indeed, we are 20 per cent below our national needs right now. Or should we make our calculations on the basis of the volume of physicians' services needed for a given number of people if existing diseases and disorders are to receive all the care considered necessary? That was the basis of the calculations of the famous Committee on the Costs of Medical Care in 1933. It neglects, however, the development of auxiliary services in the 1940's and the resulting increase-perhaps by a third-of the work a doctor can now do. According to Dean Rappleye we have enough doctors right now; the difficulty is they aren't well distributed. How can we persuade the medical graduate to practise in rural areas, away from the laboratories and consultation services he has been trained to use? How can we finance an expansion of medical education? The financial future of private schools, threefifths of the total, is dark. Their budget is twice what it was ten years ago, with tuitions contributing only onefourth or one-fifth of operating expenses. Last year Syracuse and Long Island Universities turned over their medical schools to the State. The National Health Assembly of May, 1948 concluded that our private schools need an additional \$750 million a year to survive. Finally, supposing the funds are available, where is the faculty for an expanded medical education coming from? We have treated this difficulty before (9/17/49, p. 627).

#### Senator McCarran maligns the unfortunate

The significance of January 25 is only one of the multitudinous ignorances of bland Senator Pat McCarran. That is the date, set by Senate vote, for his Judiciary Committee to report a DP bill. The Senator pretends it is all news to him. He should know. It was on June 2, 1949 that the House voted to liberalize current DP legislation. Senator McCarran's committee successfully sat on the proposal all last session. Bipartisan action finally forced debate on the Senate floor. Senator Cain's filibuster, plus the general weariness and eagerness of the Senators to get home, produced a vote on October 15 returning the bill to committee with instructions to bring recommendations back to the Senate by January 25. In the meantime, Senator McCarran has had himself two months in Europe, ostensibly surveying (at long distance

and second-hand) the situation in the DP camps. He is back repeating his familiar refrain: that the DPs will hurt the American economy, that they are "ready recruits in subversive organizations," that approximately four-fifths of the DP's admitted were "of the Jewish faith." The support of the CIO and the AFL for liberalizing our DP legislation should reassure the Senator on the threat to the labor market. The explanation by Paul J. MacCormack of War Relief Services-NCWC of the multiple screening (amounting to fourteen separate quizzings) of every DP landing in America allays worry about subversives slipping in. To refute Senator McCarran's last complaint, we have the word of Msgr. Edward E. Swanstrom, chairman of the Catholic Resettlement Council. Speaking to sixty diocesan directors on January 10, Msgr. Swanstrom provided the figures: of 121,-123 DPs arriving up to the first of January, 44,703, or 35 per cent, were Catholics.

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#### Is no vote a veto?

The unvaried valedictory of the Soviet representatives as they stalk from one UN meeting after another has been: "The USSR will regard all decisions as illegal as long as Nationalist China is recognized as a member." Nothing in the Charter supports their position as far as the specialized agencies, the Trusteeship Council and the Assembly are concerned. The situation is different, however, in regard to the Security Council. The Soviets have not invoked the voting provisions governing the Council but it is possible they may do so. Section 3 of Article 27 requires that "decisions of the Security Council on all other [than procedural] matters shall be made by an affirmative vote of seven members including the concurring votes of the permanent members." At San Francisco the sponsoring governments-the United States, the United Kingdom, Russia and China-clearly implied, in answer to a formal query by a sub-committee, that "abstention from voting of any one of the permanent members of the Security Council would have the same effect as a negative vote by that member." In their authoritative commentary on the Charter, Leland M. Goodrich and Edvard Hambro judge that "this would seem to mean that any permanent member has a veto right and can exercise it, even by absenting himself or abstaining from voting." In practice, it is true, the Council has not followed this interpretation. Its permanent members, including Russia, have not considered their many abstentions as vetoes. When Yakov A. Malik walked out on January 13, the other members of the Security Council continued their deliberations. "It is the view of my Government," said Ernest A. Gross of the United States, "that the absence of a permanent member from a meeting of the Security Council in no way diminishes its powers or its authority to act." That was not the view of Mr. Gross' Government in 1945. If the Soviets choose to stand on the strict interpretation of Article 27, we think they could present a strong case. In view of their unpredictableness, it is dangerous to leave such an important matter to tacit agreement. Perhaps the Internstional Court should be asked for its interpretation.

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In his recent address before the National Press Club, Secretary of State Dean Acheson ignored the Formosa issue. He implicitly answered current congressional criticism of our China policy by emphasizing the most important fact "shaping U. S. foreign policy in the Far East"-Russian imperialism. According to Mr. Acheson the immediate crucial area in Asia is rather on the Sino-Soviet border, where Russia has grabbed four Chinese provinces. Denouncing communism as the "most subtle instrument of Soviet foreign policy ever devised," Mr. Acheson singled out the Soviet Union as the only nation guilty of territorial aggrandizement in Asia. To commit the United States to a military expedition in order to seize Formosa, he insisted, would lay us open to the same accusation. Our interest is in the Asiatic peoples themselves. Communism is contrary to that interest but resistance to it must be built up inside Asia. "You can only be willing to help and you can help only when conditions are right for help to be effective." Mr. Acheson is correct in telling us that the Asiatic peoples are on their own, that we can help only where our help is wanted and when it means the difference between victory and defeat. Stressing the fact of our limitations, however, is not meeting the Asiatic situation. The primary need in Asia is material and technical assistance. At present no Asiatic Marshall Plan is forthcoming. The Point Four program is in a rudimentary stage. Yet the mere fact that we have had to abandon China and Formosa suggests that something drastic along these lines will have to be done immediately. Otherwise Soviet expansion will progress by default. To quote British Foreign Minister Ernest Bevin on the Colombo plan for Commonwealth self-help and assistance to Asia: "We shall ask her [the United States] to share the problem . . . It is to her interest to see democracy develop in this part of the world."

The Finns stand firm

Finland has just held her first Presidential election since 1937. As was expected, though with some misgivings, eighty-year-old President Juho K. Paasikivi, supported by four moderate parties, won over the opposition of the agrarians and the Communists. While the Communists picked up some strength, the re-election of the President seems to signify that the Party will not in the foreseeable future stuff the little country into its sack. The President, though moderately friendly to Moscow, is by no means subservient. He knows that the existence of Finland as a free nation depends on independent government leadership in the face of Communist quislings in Parliament. The Government posts they hold must be kept, democratically but effectively, to the barest minimum. So long as that status is maintained, Finland's President believes that Russia will not resort to armed aggression. It is this attitude that gives the elections a significance out of proportion to the size of the tiny country. Despite her proximity to the USSR, Finland affords hope that free peoples who want to preserve their freedom can do so. She proves, too, that Western ideals

are more attractive to free peoples than the despotism of the East. And she proves that she is willing to run no little risk to preserve those ideals. This fact was courageously shown in Finland's rejection of a Soviet demand made on the very eve of the election. Moscow called for the return to Russia of some 300 alleged Soviet war criminals, naming fifty-six of them. Finland's reply referred only to the fifty-six, most of whom, it said, had fled the country. To the rest Finland obviously intends to grant the right of asylum. The war of nerves has not shaken the Finn's love of independence. The octogenarian President agreed to run for re-election only because he saw it as his patriotic duty. His administration will be under incessant pressure from Russia, but the country is fortunate to have him at the helm for another six-year period. And in the continuing freedom of Finland her Baltic neighbors may see a vestige of hope for the eventual restoration of their own freedom.

Gompers' centennial

One hundred years ago, on January 27, 1850, Samuel Gompers was born in a dreary East End slum in London. The son of Dutch Jewish parents, young Gompers was apprenticed at the age of ten as a shoemaker. Finding the work distasteful, he soon left it and turned to his father's trade of cigar-making. Three years later his parents decided to emigrate to America. The decision was to have profound influence on the lives of millions of our people. Arriving in New York, the boy went on with his cigar-making, became a journeyman worker and, at the age of fourteen, joined Local Union No. 15. Upon being elected president of his local while still in his twenties, Samuel Gompers began a trade-union career which is without parallel in this country. He achieved high office in his own international. He became a founder of the American Federation of Labor and its president, except for one year, from 1886 to his death in 1924. Under Gompers' leadership, American labor turned its back on utopian and ideological unionism to concentrate on shorter hours, higher wages and better working conditions. Under life-long attack from the Socialists, who advocated political action to change the economic system, Samuel Gompers persisted in his belief that the workers could best raise their living standards within the capitalistic system by use of exclusively economic power. He reduced labor's political role to the negative and nonpartisan policy of "rewarding its friends and punishing its enemies." If that policy is today undergoing a process of evolution, the reason must be sought in events which occurred after Gompers' death. He never knew the great depression which began in 1929, or experienced the sense of insecurity which it left in American workers. Nevertheless, despite the increased political activity of labor, the spirit of Gompers still dominates the thinking of American trade unionism. That is why we do not as yet have a labor party here; and that is why, unless business blunders badly or labor loses its head, we shall never have one. On this centennial of Gompers' birth, we join labor in honoring the memory of a great man.

#### **WASHINGTON FRONT**

The first three weeks of the second session of the Eighty-First Congress have ambled along pretty close to form. The Republicans have done most of the talking, the usual number of "revolts" can be chalked up, the Administration's program has seemed threatened all along the line and the Democrats have been unimpressive in fighting back. But all of this is reminiscent of the beginning of many other sessions. The Democrats start slowly. Yet over the years the Democratic programs have pushed ahead.

The Administration has been on the defensive on China. The Republican attack all but forced Secretary of State Acheson to make a career of explaining the Administration's Far East position to congressional committees. The Republicans and the conservative Southern Democrats combined in a House drive aimed at restoring the Rules Committee's dictatorship over the machinery which can advance or block legislation that is headed for the House floor. Republicans and Democrats joined again in a series of statements insisting that the budget be balanced.

All these items were a headache for Harry Truman. Yet there are few better authorities in the country on how to behave when pushed around. Despite the obvious difficulty of whipping through legislation in an election year, Mr. Truman knew it still was a long way to June or July and adjournment.

The prospect seems fair at this point for another housing bill. It will be called a middle-income bill, and most of the rowing about it will be on the issue of whether the Government is to aid in the financing of cooperative housing. The Administration has begun to make its case for a broadened social-security program. The chief question is whether the Senate accepts the House broadening of the last session or still further extends coverage and raises taxes and benefits, as social-security officials are urging.

The President's new government-reorganization proposals will land in Congress soon. The odds seem to be for passage. On civil-rights legislation—despite an immense amount of talk—the prospects for action seem as remote as in the last session. On the whole, however, there should be enough done by the end of the session so that Mr. Truman and his Democrats can look back over the two years since the voters had their say and cite a considerable share of the original program as having been achieved.

On the political side, the Republicans recently gathered here for a meeting to write a new national policy statement. There was some formal talk about hopes of victory, but many thoughtful GOP leaders didn't see much ahead to cheer them. Despite taxes and high prices the dinner pail is well filled, and that always helps the party in power.

CHARLES LUCEY.

#### IINDERSCORINGS

At its Cincinnati meeting (Jan. 10-13) the Association of American Colleges heard some plain talk about the place of religion in education, according to Religious News Service. Dr. Conrad Bergendoff, president of Augustana (Lutheran) College, Rock Island, Ill., said that the view that religion was a private affair had deprived American higher education of any principle of unity. "God is dead in much of modern learning," he asserted; and warned that unless the breach between religion and learning were

we will see a Church drawing itself further into obscurity, and we will see universities producing youths who are their own lords and who will lord it over one another until they breed revolution.

▶ Dr. Ruth I. Seabury, secretary of missionary education for the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions (Congregational), told the AAC that "in our zeal for freeing education from propaganda and separating Church and State we have impoverished our students and left them no sure foundation on which to base a life."
▶ From Most. Rev. William T. Mulloy, Catholic Bishop of Covington, Ky., the Association heard:

Quite candidly, I want the college and the teacher to impart facts and values of the Christian religion, which for me means that the knowledge of Christianity will be a part of the learning process.

I want religion related to the transmission of the cultural heritage, and I want to see the influence of religion made and felt in the college as well as in the community.

▶ Rev. Emmanuel Jacques, whose interest in obtaining U.S. scholarships for students from Viet Nam was mentioned in a Comment in our issue of Jan. 14 (p. 426), is not a Jesuit but a member of the (Belgian) Society of Mission Helpers. His address is 1220 Catalpa Avenue, Chicago 40, Ill. Through the generosity of Archbishop Cushing and of Boston College, he has been able to arrange for graduate studies for the first Vietnamese priest to visit this country, the Rev. Nguyen-hieu-Hoc, called, for short, Father Hoc.

▶ More than 1,500 years ago St. John Chrysostom complained that some Catholics did not even know how many epistles of St. Paul the New Testament contained. Those of us who fall under that reproach today might well make Catholic Biblical Sunday—February 5—the occasion for awakening in ourselves a greater interest in and knowledge of the Holy Scriptures. New translations and commentaries smooth the way for the modern reader.

▶ Dr. Walter Maier, who died Jan. 11 in Lutheran Hospital, St. Louis, Mo., at the age of 56, was internationally known as a religious broadcaster through his Sunday afternoon Lutheran Hour, which he had conducted weekly since 1935. Twelve hundred stations in the United States and 47 foreign countries carried the program, in 36 languages.

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Baseball fans know what is meant by a "bean ball." It used to be common for a fast pitcher to aim his throws at the batter's head. The idea was to frighten opposing players so they would pull away from home plate for fear of being "crowned." The pitcher then slipped a strike over the plate, just beyond the batter's reach. After one player was killed by a "bean ball," the umpires began to enforce strictly the rule against it.

Being exempt from the supervision of umpires, G. Bromley Oxnam, Methodist Bishop of New York, has developed a "bean ball" pitch of his own. He uses it to frighten even the ministers of his own denomination. He wants them to shy away from an honest appraisal of the claims of Catholics in regard to Federal aid to education. Here is what he wrote on December 12, as Secretary of the Council of Bishops of the Methodist Church to all the Methodist ministers of the United States:

The Council of Bishops, at its session in New York on December 1st, 1949, gave attention to the question of the Roman Catholic demands for the public support of its private or parochial schools.

This is an issue of fundamental importance. To grant this demand would be to discard the principle of the separation of Church and State. What is equally important, to drain off vast sums from the support of public education for the support of parochial or private schools would so weaken public education as eventually to destroy it.

Bishop Oxnam knows better than to talk about "Roman Catholic demands for the public support of its private or parochial schools." "Public support" means paying the salaries of teachers and all other costs of maintenance. The Bishop knows that all we are asking amounts to less than fifty cents per child annually for bus rides. Does he call that "public support of parochial schools"?

"To grant this demand would be to discard the principle of the separation of Church and State." To grant bus rides would do this? The Supreme Court ruled in the Everson case (1947) that the use of public funds to furnish bus rides to and from parochial schools did not violate the "principle of the separation of Church and State." The bishop must assume that all Methodist ministers are babes in the woods.

"To drain off vast sums from the support of public education for the support of parochial or private education..." The sum would be less than \$2 million out of \$300 million in Federal aid. The State of New Jersey, in which the use of public funds to furnish bus rides to and from parochial schools is permitted, spent just \$1.858 million on all school-bus transportation in 1942-43. Since only about one-sixth of the children in New Jersey are in nonpublic schools to start with, and Catholic schools are found mostly in the cities (where no free transportation is furnished anyway), how much of the \$1.8 million found its way into Catholic pockets? In 1946 the State of New Jersey, not including county and municipal governments, spent a total of \$29 million on schools. As far as State funds are concerned, furnishing

## **EDITORIALS**

free bus rides to Catholic children couldn't possibly have cost the State of New Jersey over *one per cent* of what it spends on public education.

When the bishop solemnly proclaims that such an arrangement will "eventually destroy" public education he is simply trying to buffalo his brethren. Such tactics degrade the discussion of public issues into a parade of die-hard, irrational prejudices. The bishop's "bean ball" therefore makes democratic cooperation with people like himself impossible.

## Protestants and religious education

In the controversy over Federal aid to education the strategy of opponents of Catholic parochial schools has been to portray American Protestantism as lined up solidly on the side of a secularized public-school monopoly of American education. This extreme oversimplification does a serious injustice to American Protestants. The fact is that they can be divided into three different groups in their attitude towards religious education.

One group embraces the secularized public school as the citadel of American civic unity. For the extremists in this camp "democracy" has become a substitute religion for Christianity. The public school is their church, and political democracy their god.

The campaign buttons of these Protestants carry the slogans Absolute Separation Of Church and State—Keep Religion Out Of The Public Schools—Religious Education Is Divisive—Beware Of Rome and Moscow. Professing to be Christians, they spend their time trying to calumniate Catholics and exclude religion from American education. Actually, they fraternize with secularists, anti-Christians and even Communists.

Officially, the most impressive roster of American Protestants belongs to a second group. These people are primarily interested in bringing more religion into the lives of young Americans, as one would expect of a religious group. The agency on which they chiefly rely is the Sunday or weekday class in religious instruction. How large this group is can be judged from the membership of the International Council of Religious Education, a coordinating medium for thirty-nine Protestant denominations. Its headquarters in Chicago employs about ninety office workers and operates on an annual budget of some \$700,000.

The International Council services the State Councils, which likewise consist of representatives of most of the important Protestant denominations—outside of the ex-

treme evangelicals. The entire organization is made up of professional religious educators, who took the lead in sponsoring "released time" religious instruction in the public schools. Being religious educators, they are quite dissatisfied with the secularized public school of today. Large numbers of them would like to see the study of religion made a part of the public-school curriculum, on a "non-sectarian" basis (see p. 495 of this issue). It should be said in passing that some professional religious educators among Protestants profess a very fuzzy form of religion, like William Clayton Bower of the University of Chicago, but they are probably not representative.

Lastly, a third group of Protestants makes a clean break with the secularized public school. This group consists of people like the Lutherans, who have set up over a thousand parochial schools of their own, with over eighty thousand pupils. Dr. Edwin H. Rian, an outstanding Protestant university administrator in Texas, in his Christianity and American Education presented a very cogent argument to show why Protestants should adopt this solution—a system of private schools under religious auspices.

There is also a growing movement among certain Protestants to set up community schools of a non-parochial type as substitutes for the secularized public school. They now have 133 such schools in the United States, including fifteen built last year. Eleven were being built in December and more are planned, according to Preston King Sheldon's account in the New York Times (Jan. 15). Catholics should realize that such sincere efforts are being made by Protestant religious educators.

#### Wire-tapping on trial

The Coplon-Gubitchev trial in New York may not break any records, as the trial of the Communist leaders did last year. That one ran nine months and cost the Federal Government about a million dollars. Nevertheless, the new show on Foley Square has already unrolled two intriguing acts.

The curtain rose on the pre-trial hearings on November 14, with Judith Coplon of Brooklyn playing the lead. Last June she was convicted in a Federal Court, in Washington, D. C., of the theft of secret Government documents, was sentenced to from forty months to ten years imprisonment, and was later released on \$40,000 bail. She is now charged with conspiracy and espionage to obtain United States defense secrets for the USSR. Playing opposite her is Valentin A. Gubitchev, UN engineer at the time of their arrest last March 4 but immediately suspended from that role. He was also, and still is, according to his testimony, Third Secretary of the Soviet Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

As happens in any good drama, further complication of this original situation was not long in coming. In fact, two complications promptly arose. Mr. Gubitchev's attorney, Abraham L. Pomerantz, petitioned Federal Judge Sylvester Ryan to send his client back to Judge Simon H. Rifkind, who had ruled that Gubitchev did not enjoy diplomatic immunity. New evidence, according

to Mr. Pomerantz, would show that he did. Besides, when the question first arose he did not know enough English to avail himself of his legal rights.

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The much more fascinating complication arose in connection with Miss Coplon's defense. Her attorney, Archibald Palmer, asked Judge Ryan to dismiss the indictment because the Department of Justice (of which she is a former employe) had used illegal methods in obtaining the evidence on which the indictment was based. These methods consisted of wire-tapping and intercepting her (and Mr. Gubitchev's) mail. It should be understood that in her Washington trial last spring Judge Albert Reeves upheld the Government's objections to all of Mr. Palmer's questions about FBI wire-tapping. But this is another trial—and before another judge.

At this juncture let the curtain fall while we give ourselves a brief "fill in" on the legal status of wire-tapping. In 1928 the U. S. Supreme Court shocked many Americans by declaring that wire-tapping did not violate the search-and-seizure clause of the Fourth Amendment. In 1934, however, Congress laid down in the Federal Communications Act a legal prohibition against intercepting any communication and divulging or publishing its contents, without the sender's consent. The Supreme Court in 1937 ruled that even the indirect use of evidence obtained by wire-tapping was inadmissible in Federal courts. In any case where wire-tapping has been used, the judge has to decide on the admissibility of each piece of evidence: was it legally or illegally obtained?

In the second act of the new drama on Foley Square Judge Ryan set about trying to discover this for himself. It hasn't been easy. Government attorneys at first "didn't know" whether wires had been tapped. Gradually they found out and admitted that such means had been used. A parade of FBI agents as witnesses admitted to wiretapping and, in compliance with Judge Ryan's orders, submitted affidavits to this effect. Things were getting pretty tangled on December 20. The judge closed shop at 5 P.M. and went to Carnegie Hall to hear Margaret Truman sing.

We can sympathize with the judge. He said he didn't think Congress meant to "give immunity or amnesty to criminals for the commission of any crime because they discussed it over a telephone," even, apparently, if some of their conversations were intercepted. He was—and who can blame him?—"troubled" about how far to go in outlawing evidence indirectly obtained by monitoring. Yet he felt that the Government would have to give proof, in these pre-trial hearings, that it possessed enough evidence, legally obtained, to warrant an indictment.

The Government hasn't been too helpful. Two of its witnesses on December 22 seemed evasive, if not self-contradictory. The Government has not been very forthright in explaining the "destruction" of its disks of intercepted messages. Even stranger is the fact that so many of the extant disks fail to deliver intelligible sounds.

Then there is the episode involving William E. Foley, Miss Coplon's superior in the Foreign Agents Registration Section of the Department of Justice. How did be and others in the Department learn that she planned to go to New York on March 4? Through tapped telephone conversations or independently of them? Did he suggest that she take a "planted" document home with her, as Miss Coplon contends, or merely tell her it was "interesting"?

No doubt the Government has reasons for not laying all its cards on the table. But it had to prove by January 18 that it had presented enough evidence, without use of wire-tapping, to justify the indictment. Judge Ryan was

to decide on January 20 whether it had.

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The Coplon-Gubitchev trial is bringing to a head the conflict between Federal legislation and the methods being used by the Federal Bureau of Investigation to protect our national security. Wire-tapping and similar methods of uncovering criminal activities have become standard practice in some States, notably New York. Like freedom of speech, the alleged immunity of personal communications from police-interception poses a delicate problem. It is the age-old problem of drawing a line between individual liberty and the authority that government must have to protect society against those who engage in activities injurious to public order.

#### Civil Rights Mobilization

As many as two thousand delegates from 33 different organizations-business, professional, labor, religious, educational-were expected to come to Washington for the National Emergency Civil Rights Mobilization, January 15-17. They were brought together by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), under the leadership of the NAACP's acting national secretary, Roy Wilkins.

In point of fact, four thousand delegates came, double the number expected, despite long distances, great inconveniences and personal expense. They were not professional lobbyists but representatives of very anxious American citizens. They were asking for the immediate enactment of legislation that is bound to be enacted sooner or later. As President Truman told the delegates who visited him on January 17, such legislation is "necessary if we are to maintain our position in the world."

Moreover, by this time it is pretty clear that as a whole the people of the United States demand such legislation. It is precisely because the Rules Committee of the House knows that the majority in both Houses of Congress are in favor of civil-rights measures that this small group of stubborn men is moving heaven and earth to obtain a revision of the recently adopted procedure, by which, after twenty-one days, voting on measures can no longer be blocked by the Committee. Judging by newspaper editorials across the country, the public is now aware that their aim is to keep the control of both Houses in their own hands, regardless of what Congress or the people of the country really want.

Those who prepared the Emergency Civil Rights Mobilization did so with full consciousness that the biggest headaches in Washington would not be caused by the Rankins, the Coxes and other die-hards. That was an old battle and one with which the public has long

been familiar. A much subtler foe has recently appeared upon the scene: one who would make loud professions of cooperation, friendship and unity, yet who had no more interest in civil liberties for all U.S. citizens than is felt by the most confirmed race-baiter from the backwoods. In his categorical reply to William L. Patterson, national executive secretary of the Civil Rights Congress -an organization placed on the "subversive" list by the House Committee on un-American Activities-Mr. Wilkins had already shown that in the present Civil Rights Mobilization the members of the NAACP had "no desire for that kind of cooperation, or that kind of unity" (Ам. 12/17/49, pp. 334-5).

The resounding defeat of Communist-sponsored City Councilman Benjamin J. Davis in New York City's elections last November 8 (Am. 11/15/49, p. 113) exploded any notion that the Communists could succeed in their cherished plan of taking over the Negroes of New York. In similar fashion, the great non-Communist majority of the Emergency Mobilization in Washington threw out, bag and baggage, the ingeniously contrived Communist attempt to take over the Mobilization as their own. Nothing would have given the Reds greater joy than to assume the leadership of the Mobilization, with the aid of a skillfully contrived "front" of cooperation and unity, and then use the movement as a vehicle on which to ride into power and popularity. Failing this, they would have proceeded to disrupt the movement and to make it appear as a futile, irresponsible affair of mass pressure, thereby throwing discredit upon the entire civil-rights cause.

Mr. Wilkins and his associates were obliged to resort to radical measures in order to separate the sheep from the goats. Willard Townsend, chairman of the credentials committee, refused to admit scores of known Communist sympathizers. Two NAACP units were accused by Mobilization officials of trying to worm into the demonstration Communist delegates who were to capture positions of leadership. The anti-Communist leadership rebuffed them because it was determined to prove once and for all that the cause of civil rights has interests diametrically opposed to those of Moscow and Moscow's followers.

The factors in this dramatic struggle are of national and of world importance. Out of it emerges one very clear and somewhat painful conclusion: the bearings of these events are as yet very slightly understood by the Catholics of the United States. Outside of one or two Catholic interracial groups, Catholic representation in the Mobilization program was practically nil. Catholics, like everybody else, will differ as to the timing or the wisdom of specific legislative proposals. But Catholics cannot afford to differ-nor can religious-minded persons in general so afford-when it comes to giving moral support to those who are battling in the front line against communism's most dangerous and subtle schemes.

This decisive anti-Communist engagement in Washington was won without our aid, encouragement or support. Some day we may rather earnestly wish we had been more alert to the real issues, at a time when our help, individual and collective, would have counted immensely.

## Religious education in the new India

T. N. Siqueira, S.J.

It is natural during a country's transition from dependence to independence to emphasize only the bright side of the picture. Most speakers and writers on India throw more light on their subjective attitude to the new regime than on the objective truth about it. It may therefore interest Americans, who overwhelmed our representative, Pandit Nehru, with their hospitality during his recent visit, to know just what is the state and prospect of Catholic education in India today.

Our new Constitution, which is expected to go into effect on January 26, 1950, has laid it down that

all minorities, whether based on religion, community or language, shall have the right to establish and administer educational institutions of their choice [Part III, No. 23, (3) (a)].

That this is a great victory not only for Catholics but for all parents—who have the natural, divine right to direct the education of their children, those who are in touch with recent history will readily appreciate. In the native State of Travancore, a few years ago, a serious attempt

was made, in the teeth of unconcealed opposition from the entire Christian community, to "statize" all primary education, with the intention of completing the process in easy stages for the secondary and higher schools. Teachers up and down the country, lured by the prospect of higher scales of pay and improved conditions of service, passed resolutions in their guilds and associations calling for or welcoming state control and monopoly of education. It is to the good sense and fairness of the members of the Constituent Assembly that we owe the definite acknowledgment, quoted above, of the right of parents to

educate their children according to the dictates of conscience and religious belief.

But a state may admit the rights of private schools and yet indirectly try to nullify these rights by imposing intolerable conditions on such schools or by denying them financial help. English and American Catholics need hardly be reminded of this. On this point we in India have the assurance of No. 23, (3) (b) of the Constitution, which is specifically designed to prevent the subtle financial crippling of minority education:

The state shall not, in granting aid to educational institutions, discriminate against any educational institution on the ground that it is under the management of a minority, whether based on religion or community or language.

The principle of distributive justice, on which this article

"A state may admit the rights of private schools and yet indirectly try to nullify these rights by imposing intolerable conditions on such schools or by denying them financial help," says Fr. T. N. Siquiera, S.J., Professor of English at St. Joseph's College, Trichinopoly, India, in his report on education in the new Dominion. This analysis is very relevant to the U.S.A.

is based, demands that any Catholic or other minority has the right to state help from the funds supplied by all, according to its *need*. We are happy that in our infant Constitution this natural right, too, is adequately safeguarded.

A third way in which a majority can bloodlessly kill a minority is by refusing its members admission into professional colleges, which on account of their costliness are beyond the reach of private bodies. If medicine, law, engineering and teaching are closed to it, a community loses all influence and respectability before others. On this subject a heated controversy has raged in recent years: shall admission into higher courses be by "merit" or by community, religion, caste or party? Though the word "merit" was left delightfully vague, and often meant nothing more reliable than the marks secured at an examination which had no connection with the profession it was supposed to qualify for, still there was in it an implication of fitness as opposed to favor. Our Constitution satisfactorily lays it down that

No minority, whether based on religion or community or language, shall be discriminated against in regard to the admission of any person belonging to such minority into any educational institution maintained by the state [No. 23, (2)].

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Though the principle on which admission will be made to these institutions is not mentioned here, the promise of admission itself is encouraging to minorities.

I shall not dwell on Part IV, No. 6 of our new Constitution, which promises universal primary education "within a period of ten years from the commence-

ment of this Constitution"; but shall pass on to a subject more vital for Catholic and other minorities in a state which calls itself "secular." Section 22, (1) dryly says:

No religious instruction shall be provided by the state in any educational institution wholly maintained out of state funds.

This means that government, district-board or municipal schools and colleges may not provide religious instruction to the pupils of any religion. In private institutions, which are only partially (half or two-thirds) maintained by the state, religion may be taught; for No. 22, (3) of the Constitution adds:

Nothing in this article shall prevent any community or denomination from providing religious instruction for pupils of that community or denomination in an educational institution outside its working hours.



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No. 6 omises hin a nence-ubject state says:

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ity on From this clause we infer that religious instruction may be given in private schools, in school buildings, but not within school hours.

This last phrase, harmless as it looks, is one of the few unsatisfactory items in our Constitution from the point of view of Catholic education. It implies that religion is not an important or even integral part of education. And though a school management, left to itself, may without any danger allow religious instruction before or after the regular school hours, it cannot be required by the state to allow such instruction.

The other objectionable paragraph is Section 22, (2), which says:

No person attending any educational institution managed by the state or receiving aid out of state funds shall be required to take part in any religious instruction that may be imparted in such institution or in any premises attached thereto, unless such person, or, if such person is a minor, his guardian, has given his consent thereto.

The good intention of this provision cannot be questioned. It is meant to prevent a compulsory teaching of the Bible or other religious books to pupils who do not believe these books to be sacred. But it does not make any distinction between such pupils and others who do belong to the same religion as those who conduct the school. Is the permission of the parent or the consent of the pupil necessary before a Catholic school can require a Catholic pupil to attend the religion class or the chapel? Is formal consent needed, or is it sufficient to have the virtual consent implied in the very fact of seeking admission into such a college or school? The Constitution does not answer these questions, though they are of great theoretical and practical importance.

Our new Constitution is thus fairly satisfactory to Catholic education. But its actual day-to-day implementation will depend on the human beings who are in charge of schools and colleges in various parts of this immense country—and on those who are appointed by the Government to inspect, control, recognize or affiliate private schools or sanction grants-in-aid to them.

That this side of the picture is not so rosy as outsiders may be inclined to think from official reports in the press, or from government-appointed spokesmen now sent in increasing numbers to Europe and America, will appear from a few facts out of many that might be cited. On the one hand, there is not, has never been and never will he a persecution by the Central Government. Yet there is a silent support, or at least connivance, which emboldens the petty persecutors at the circumferencewhere the poor Catholics mostly live. But for his confidence that Delhi would not intervene, Sir C. P. Ramaswami would not have been able to continue his educational persecution in Travancore so long as he did. Nor could the former Minister of Education in Madras -where Catholic education is more widespread and renowned than in any other part of India-have dared to introduce a bill allowing the Government to requisition the property, furniture, library and other effects of any private school which the same Government should have

declared to have lost its "recognition." (This bill, which was strongly opposed by Catholics and by other religious groups, is reported by NCWC News Service to have become law in the Madras presidency on January 12, 1950, when it was passed by the Madras legislative council. According to its terms, the Government can seize, for the period of one year, any private educational institution which it deems to be run "inefficiently." Most of the private schools in the presidency are conducted under Catholic auspices.—Ed.)

One of the chief duties of any government in India is to lift up the long downtrodden "untouchables" and "aboriginals." But in Madras an untouchable ("Harijan") who is converted to Christianity at once loses the school fee concessions he had before, as if by becoming a Christian he at once became rich. And, according to a government order dated August 5, 1949,

There is no objection to (Harijan) Christians who are reconverted to Hinduism being granted the full fee concessions, provided the other conditions relating to the grant of the concessions are satisfied and that authenticated certificates regarding the conversions from Christianity to Hinduism are produced.

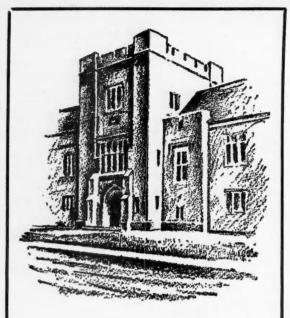
So by becoming Christians they become rich and by again becoming Hindus they again become poor! If this is not discriminating against Christianity, what is?

The same discrimination is practised in Chota Nagpur. In a memorandum sent by the Rt. Rev. O. Sevrin, S.J., Bishop of Ranchi, to the Government, he says:

Aboriginals who happen to be Christians are deprived of scholarships and other educational concessions on the sole ground of religion.

Another indirect means of discouraging Catholic schools is to demand from them what are called endowments, huge sums of money which have to be set apart (and cannot be used) as a guarantee of the stability of these schools. Before India attained independence these endowments were not demanded from schools and colleges run by bishops and religious bodies with a certain reputation and financial standing, though the rule existed on paper. But recently they have been insisted upon, so that bishops and religious congregations have not been able to start and maintain the necessary schools for their Catholic children. In Madras the Government was not unwilling to exempt certain Hindu organizations like the Ramakrishna Mission from this rule, on the ground that they were sufficiently reliable and stable. But Catholic bishops and organizations did not seem to the Government to be quite so reliable.

These few instances are enough to show which way the wind is blowing in the Provinces, while the needle of impartiality stands undeflected at Delhi. The picture is neither bright nor dark—it is like life itself. When the thrill of our new-won independence and the generosity of all beginnings recedes into the past, little jealousies and rivalries will rear their ugly heads. It is for Catholics in India to be watchful no less than trustful towards the majority which rules them, and for the Catholics of the world to help us with their understanding sympathy.



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## Our language snarl

Henry J. Blossy

It is now more than four full years since VJ Day but I'm still not a well man. I continue to wake up at night in a frustrated sweat. I bark unmercifully at the ever-loving wife for little more than misplacing a comma in her market list. And I bristle in a cold frenzy when the studio-born hillbillies becloud the air waves with their ungrammatical ditties.

Battle nerves? No. Worse. Much worse. I have a form of psychoneurosis which could very aptly be described as a censorial aftermath. Glue-pot-aggravated and scissorsfestered, it's a case of too much time in the censor shack.

During the recent war, because of the dictates of security, the mail had to go through—through the hands of the censor—before being sealed and directed toward its destination. Consequently, the birth of the amateur censor—meaning myself and a lot of others privileged to wear the shiny bars on their collars. That, plainly told, is the basis of my present troubles.

It wasn't so much the shock of finding hundreds of letters beginning with "Dere" and ending with "Cinserely," or "Faethfulle." I think I could have stood that without cracking. But when phonetic interpretation twisted "himself" into "hisself," "enough" into "enuf" and "said" into "sed," to name but a few of the distortions, it became too much for me. Add to this the multifarious orgies of maimed grammar found in ninetenths of the censored correspondence, and you have an additional reason for my present state. I am now an insufferable pedant who cringes at the sight of a misplaced "whom" and feels faint when a participle dangles.

Maybe it's just because of what this deplorable state of affairs has done to me that I straighten my back and ask indignantly: "What's wrong? Why should such a large segment of our population be devoid of the barest knowledge of how to handle our mother tongue properly?" After thinking about it, I have found but one plausible answer: our schooling methods.

In almost every edition of our daily papers there is news about our rising educational standards. Some figures purport to show that our educational level is 100 per cent higher than in 1929. Others tell of over six million teen-age high-school students who are sopping up knowledge. When it comes to colleges, it's a truism to say that there hasn't been enough college-level learning to quench the thirst for wisdom. In spite of all this, I just sigh and give a mournful shake of the head. What's the good of so many people going through school if they are not learning anything?

Take the case of the college football player whose letter found its way into the press a few years ago. He had written to a coach of another school, feeling him out on a possible transfer to his institution. College authorities were shocked when the letter was made public, embodying as it did a horrendous assortment of misspellings and grammatical inaccuracies of backwoods flavor. Many a gray-haired professor was astounded that even a halfback could so effectively dodge the rudiments of English, getting through classes without having the barest trace of grammar rub off on him.

Some may say that English itself is the main cause of illiteracy. And there's no doubt about it. English is a complex subject. Many a highly educated man is often caught between a "he" and a "him." Take the case of Assistant U. S. Attorney Thomas F. Murphy. He was deeply chagrined when Alger Hiss, whom he was prosecuting, pointedly corrected his grammar. And then there was a recent admission by Scripps-Howard columnist Robert Ruark. The eloquent Mr. Ruark decried the complexity of the English language and admitted candidly that he still doesn't know when to use "which" or "that."

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It is all too true that the complete master of English, the man who can find his way through the labyrinth of contradictory rules, must be a high-domed genius. That, to my way of thinking, is precisely where our educators have erred in their teaching of English grammar.

Such complex subjects as algebra, chemistry and forsign languages are deferred until high school before being introduced to a student's curriculum. But English grammar, at least as difficult to comprehend, is served up in liberal portions in our elementary schools. Blandly, it seems, our educators think the adolescent mind will do a quick flipflop where grammar studies are concerned and advance far beyond its years, grasping the complex rules which guide us in our use of correct English. With such an indoctrination, it is further assumed, high-school English classes can turn to the study of the classics and composition, all predicated on the idea that the student is well versed in the rules of grammar.

This idea must surely rate with the greatest misconceptions of our age. Even the most erudite students are fuzzy about English grammar after their elementary-school tutelage. They need a good deal more drilling in the fundamentals.

Because English is admittedly such a difficult subject, the brunt of teaching it should fall on our high schools, not our elementary schools. With more mature minds, high-school students are able to grasp the why's and wherefore's of English.

I firmly believe that English grammar should be a major subject in high school, with preparatory studies in the elementary grades. Maybe Americans would then be able to speak and write their mother tongue correctly. And if our educators say: "Nonsense, our present methods are sound," they should try being censors, if there is any future need for them. Why should the innocent suffer for the comfortable illusions of pedagogues?

(Since retiring from his disillusioning post as wartime censor of mail in the U. S. Marine Corps, Henry J. Blossy has got himself into a position where his own commas are subject to wide scrutiny. He is at present editor of Equitable Items, house organ of the Equitable Life Assurance Society.)

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## Chicago's "Catholic Times Square"

James O'Gara

SEVEN YEARS AGO a rather shabby building in downtown Chicago witnessed a wedding of the life intellectual and the life athletic. The building in question was the headquarters of the nationally famous Catholic Youth Organization at 31 East Congress Street. The wedding took place between the CYO's well-known athletic program and one of its not so widely publicized educational projects, the Sheil School of Social Studies. At the time there were probably skeptics, but in the years since then the union seems to have been eminently successful. Today, seven years later, there are certainly no signs of any divorce proceedings in the offing.

The CYO center in Chicago has always been a beehive of activity. Teachers in the Sheil School are likely to find their sentences punctuated by the dimly heard thud of a punching bag in the nearby gym, and a lecture on the contemplative life may proceed against the hollow echo of bowling balls in the basement. Stepping into the purposeful bustle that characterizes the CYO building, few lecturers can avoid feeling that life is indeed real, life is earnest. There is little of the ivory-tower atmosphere about the Sheil School.

Perhaps this down-to-earth quality may explain the success the Sheil School has always enjoyed. In the years since its founding the school has won for itself a unique place in Catholic life in Chicago. Not the least of its accomplishments has been that it offers to people of various vocations and assorted avocations a common meeting ground. Over the years the Sheil School has become the place in Catholic Chicago where people can meet, exchange ideas and acquire new ones. This process of discovering new approaches to old problems is carried on in an atmosphere which is adult, informal and, above all, stimulating. As a result the Sheil School has become a kind of Catholic Times Square in Chicago: stay there long enough and you can meet almost anybody.

Valuable as is this function of serving as a common meeting ground, that particular virtue is, of course, merely a by-product of the school's more formalized intention. The directors of the school recently stated its aims this way:

The purpose of the Sheil School remains constant. Most simply stated, it is to answer the question: "What of Christ—in this time and this place?" In its years of existence, Sheil School has discovered no easy answers. It remains convinced that neither reason nor good will alone can solve the problem of the modern world; that the resolution must be both intellectual and moral; that understanding and action must complement each other.

Like its famous parent, the Catholic Youth Organization, the Sheil School of Social Studies was founded by Most "A Catholic Times Square of Chicago" is how James O'Gara describes the Sheil School, where young and old meet and talk and learn to overcome modern secularism with finer Christian ideals. Mr. O'Gara, editor, until last June, of the Catholic student magazine, Today, is now combining graduate work at Loyola University, Chicago, with free-lance writing.

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Rev. Bernard J. Sheil, D.D., Auxiliary Bishop of Chicago. The school has always been one of Bishop Sheil's favorite projects, and as a result it has always been blessed with very capable direction. Early director of the school under Bishop Sheil was a brilliant layman, George Drury, now on the faculty of Loyola University in Chicago. To take Mr. Drury's place, Bishop Sheil secured the services of Father Edward V. Cardinal, C.S.V., well-known historian, formerly with Catholic University of America. Assisting Father Cardinal is capable, university-trained, Mary Elizabeth Carroll.

The task set for itself by the Sheil School is admittedly no small one. To meet this self-imposed challenge, Bishop Sheil and his directors offer a wide range of classes and lecture series, most of them in the late afternoon and evening. There are, for instance, a variety of sessions on labor problems, offered in cooperation with the Catholic

Labor Alliance. Almost without exception these are topnotch. A special feature recently introduced is a Labor Supper Club which meets once a week. After a buffet supper, participants sit down for an informal and off-the-record discussion with top labor experts and union leaders. The flexibility and informality of this arrangement are characteristic of the effective approach used by the Sheil School.

In the field of labor and of papal social thought in general,

the problem for the student at the school is not one of finding particular classes that appeal. Rather, he has the more difficult job of choosing between attractive classes that meet at the same time. Courses on that old bugaboo, parliamentary law; discussion groups on socialism, capitalism and the distribution of wealth; lectures on labor legislation; detailed consideration of the problems of collective bargaining; examination of union health and welfare plans—the Sheil School has all these, and its labor program is studded with the names of experts.

Extensive though they are, classes dealing directly and obviously with social problems are only a part of the curriculum of the Sheil School. Courses cover subjects ranging from St. Thomas Aquinas through current international affairs to problems in Christian art. In the very best sense of the word the school is Catholic, and its education is aimed at the whole man. It is this universality of interest that makes the Sheil School stand out.

Visiting lecturers and regular teachers are drawn from no particular group, nor are their interests concentrated James in any one field. The Sheil School student may one g and night hear the distinguished philosopher-author of the rodern Gara, magark at riting. icago. favor-

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Companion to the Summa, Father Walter Farrell, O.P., and on another night listen to one of the lay directors of Friendship House discuss voluntary poverty and the interracial apostolate. The diversity of the offerings may be seen in any program picked up at random. Last fall, for instance, one lecture series on the program was called "Elements of American Culture" and consisted of serious analyses of such potent influences as the movies, the comic strips and the book clubs. Another series of lectures in the same semester used the historical approach and dealt exclusively with great Catholic social leaders and their impact on our times. Almost literally there is something for every taste,

and everything offered is worth-while and constructive. However diverse the courses might seem at first sight, all are ultimately designed to make the student see the application of Christian thought to a rapidly changing, often confusing, modern world. Some courses are directly in line with the school's primary purpose of presenting the social teaching of the Church in its application to everyday problems. "Other purposes, subsidiary to this, are implied," say the directors of the school: "provision of the tools for effective social and political action; preparation for the good life of the individual in society through courses pointed toward his spiritual, moral and cultural development."

The extent of the courses covered by this description, which might in the over-all picture appear subsidiary to the school's main purpose, is enough to awe the outsider. You want to learn to act? There is a theatre workshop. The parish choir sounds like a rusty gate? Regular courses in Gregorian chant are available at the Sheil School. You want to learn Russian? There is a Benedictine monk to teach you. French or Spanish are more to your liking? The Sheil School can supply instruction in both. You have always had a hankering to write? A workshop in creative writing is offered regularly under the guidance of short-story writer and novelist Joseph Dever. Your child needs remedial reading instruction? The Sheil School has it. You want to improve your own vocal effectiveness? There is a class made to order for you. You are a non-Catholic who wants to find out just what the Church does and does not teach? You have come to the right place.

Such things are very fine, but you don't feel like listening to a lecture or sitting in a classroom? Downstairs is the St. Benet Library, also under Bishop Sheil's direction and operated in conjunction with the Sheil School. There you will find more than seven thousand rental volumes on Catholic thought to choose from. In addition, more than forty Catholic periodicals are subscribed to, and a reading room is provided if you want to browse through them on the premises.

All this should be enough to indicate that the Sheil School is a great deal more than just another school. The extent of the courses and lectures offered has sometimes caused people to refer to the Sheil School as "a poor man's college" or "the university of the labor

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schools." Such remarks are intended as compliments, but they do not achieve the desired effect on the school's directors, who shy violently away from such designations. The reason behind this attitude is the fact that the Sheil School has always avoided the more formalized apparatus necessary in the usual school.

At the Sheil School there are no credits required for entrance, nor are credits given on completion of a course. Though a small registration fee is charged, there is no tuition for any course. With no credits asked or given, no tuition charged, no degrees awarded and no diplomas bestowed, students who go to the Sheil School are there because they want to learn. That is all the school is interested in.

Most of the regular faculty members add their work at the Sheil School to already heavy tasks at various colleges and universities in the area, but they do so willingly. The only material reward for faculty members consists in an annual banquet given for them by Bishop Sheil, plus the satisfaction of a job well done. Yet most of those who participate in the teaching at the school find it a refreshing and challenging experience, a fact testified to by the consistently high standards of both lecturers and regular teachers.

One reason for this willingness to serve is the general attitude around the school. What counts is not who you are but what you have to say. This tradition sometimes produces mixed feelings among those invited to lecture for the first time at the Sheil School. Such an invitation

is at once an honor and a source of some trepidation, as many a distinguished lecturer has confessed. The people who attend the school are polite, but it is not a sit-on-the-hands-and-keep-quiet sort of politeness. So well established is the atmosphere of intellectual give-and-take that very penetrating questions are likely to follow any lecture, and in the discussion period the visiting speaker will stand or fall on his off-the-cuff answers.

Most speakers survive very well, and go away enormously pepped up about the whole educational process, anxious to be asked to return again. The Sheil School never has trouble getting speakers for special talks, and its roster of recent lecturers includes such famous names as American writer J. F. Powers, Donald Attwater, the well-known English authority on the liturgy and contributing editor of *Orate Fratres*, visiting novelist Evelyn Waugh of *Brideshead Revisited* fame, and Walter Reuther of the United Automobile Workers, for whom the crowd was so great that an outside hall had to be hired.

Anyone may attend the Sheil School, regardless of race, creed or previous education. As a result, the people who make up the student body and the lecture audiences are as diverse as the subjects offered. Union organizers and old ladies may sit side by side and engage in spirited discussions. Nuns abound, especially in the Saturday morning classes. The Sheil School would provide a good place to begin a study of the variety of religious habits in the United States. College students enjoying a busman's holiday by attending an extra-curricular class are

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It is never easy to measure effectively the success of a project like the Sheil School, which is essentially long-range in character. There are many indications, however, that it is successfully accomplishing its purpose. In the three terms of the 1948-49 school year, ninety-five courses and lecture series were offered. Almost two thousand adult students were registered in this period, an increase of more than twenty per cent over the previous year. Representatives from almost one hundred and fifty parishes in the area were included in this total.

Surveys have indicated that almost half of those attending the Sheil School have had a high-school education or less. More than forty per cent have had some college work, with a spread of from one year of undergraduate study to three years of graduate work. Although students

ranged in age from seventeen to seventy, more than half of those who attended were under thirty, and seventy-five per cent were under forty. This preponderance of young adults is a good sign in any project. It indicates that those reached are likely to carry what they learn into their own fields or communities.

Such application of learning to the life of the community is what the founder and the directors of the Sheil School are interested in. Bishop Sheil once said:

The world is flooded today with ideas completely and implacably opposed to our Christian ideals. To oppose them, we must have, not bullets nor atomic bombs, but stronger, finer ideas. It is up to us Catholics to vivify, by our Christ-likeness, the religious truths which we possess and which are the hope of the world.

Perhaps those words sum up the idea behind the Sheil School as well as any, and it is in the service of this idea that the Sheil School has won its enviable reputation among the people in and around Chicago.

#### Two views of the public schools

THE PLACE OF RELIGION IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS: A Handbook to Guide Communities

By Virgil Henry. Harper's. 164p. \$2.50 Everyone in any way concerned with the teaching of religion to children attending public school should be acquainted with this book. The author has used as his springboard the 1947 report of the American Council on Education, The Relation of Religion to Public Education: The Basic Principles. This report itself was the result of three years of study by the Committee on Religion and Education of the American Council, assisted by the National Conference of Christians and Jews.

The "basic principles" evolved in this report are bound to be widely discussed and perhaps acted upon, because they represent the thinking of a great many well-known Protestant religionists and educators. Their starting point is that the public school, as presently organized, satisfies America's educational needs in all but one respect—religious education. They believe that under our constitutional system only sectarian instruction, not religious instruction itself, is ruled out of government-run schools.

What they propose, therefore, is to restore religious instruction to the public school, in one or both of two ways. They would integrate religion with other subjects (literature, history, social studies, etc.) by having the teacher explain religious beliefs and activities wherever the secular subject-matter calls for such an explanation. And they suggest the "objective" study of re-

ligion by introducing what amounts to a course in the doctrines and practices of the "major faiths."

Mr. Henry's "handbook" was prepared with obvious enthusiasm for these proposals, as well as with an honest awareness of the great caution that must be exercised in trying to implement them.

After setting forth the background of the problem—the widespread conviction that public schools fail to give a rounded-out education by failing to teach religion—the author lays down in very systematic fashion what communities must consider in regard to realism in planning, curriculum proposals, matters of policy, the selecting and training of teachers, community preparation and what he hopes will be the "expansion and improvement" of the program after the initial experience which the communities have with it.

The subject warrants far more extended treatment than can be given in a review, and I hope to be able to come back to it very soon in the pages of AMERICA. As Mr. Henry goes pretty far towards introducing religion as a major subject of public-school instruction in a way that bears many marks of Protestantism, it might be well to limit ourselves to one aspect of the proposals which were made by the American Council on Education.

The problem really arises because of our century-old mistake in the way we related government to education. We made instruction a government function, instead of making government merely the coordinator of existing educational institutions. Religionists and educators now face this practically insoluble dilemma: we have made education a function of government, but have

#### RANKS

rigidly excluded the propagandization of religion, even indirectly, from the functions of government. In the process religion was shut out of government-run schools. Religionists and educators now want to get religion back into education, but they cannot because education has been turned over to the state, which is prohibited, it seems, from even "aiding" religion in any way whatsoever—at least by way of public education.

It is extremely doubtful whether what is now judged to be under a constitutional embargo is merely "sectarian" religion. It is even more doubtful whether religion can be taught so "objectively" as to become "nonsectarian." This book, for example, is Protestant throughout in its religious orientation.

Finally, if one atheistic mother, Mrs, Vashti McCollum, could upset the released-time arrangement in Champaign, Illinois, one wonders whether one atheist, one secularist or one adherent ef almost any denomination could not have Mr. Henry's proposals dismantled through court action.

By providing a broad groundwork for intelligent discussion of a pivotal problem in American education, however, this monograph performs a very valuable service. Catholics cannot complain about the absence of religious teaching in the public schools and show no interest in getting it in.

ROBERT C. HARTNETT, S.J.

#### AND MADLY TEACH: A Layman Looks at Public School Education

By Mortimer Smith. Regnery. 107p. \$2 The general thesis of the book is suggested in the last paragraph:

The world in which we live is revolutionary if science has taught us not to believe in unifying principles and ideals; and unless this revolution is to triumph completely and destroy our civilization, an effort has to be made somewhere to restore some aims and standards yes, even some absolute values. We have been going along now for some time on the theory that education consists simply of experience and change and "growth," and this theory has not, so far as I can see, furthered the millennium to any startling degree. Perhaps we need to set up some ends for education; perhaps we need to ask, "Growth towards what?"

Those who subscribe to this thesis will read the book with delight; those who do not, with considerable distaste (the distaste resulting from the corrosion of comfortable superstitions). Those who have no opinion in advance—and, it may be supposed, these will be the majority of parents to whom the book is addressed—will form an opinion and, it is to be hoped, will take action to improve our public education.

Mr. Smith's analysis of the philosophical basis of modern education and its doctrines, his reflections on the schools as mirroring the spirit of the times and his calm, amiable, devastating comments on the conventional "educationist" shibboleths make reading that is at once deadly serious, informative and entertaining.

This is an excellent book and should be read and pondered by all who are interested in the education that is offered in our public schools.

EDWARD D. MYERS

#### Two views of philosophy

#### AN INTRODUCTION TO ANCIENT PHILOSOPHY

By A. H. Armstrong. Newman. 241p. \$3.25

Mr. Armstrong's book is the outcome of a series of lectures given by him at the London Headquarters of the Newman Society, designed to give his students a fairly extensive grasp of ancient philosophy and to point out explicitly its connection with the Scholastic synthesis in which they were primarily interested. In both respects the author has been remarkably successful. He has produced a popular history of thought from Thales to St. Augustine which is probably the best thing the

beginner can find in English by way of an introductory text. Clarity, readability and accuracy, however, are all that Mr. Armstrong claims for his book. He makes no pretense at original contribution, and the reader who has gone through the more recent histories of ancient philosophy will find little or nothing in the present book with which he is not already familiar.

The similarity of aim and content between Mr. Armstrong's text and the first volume of the Rev. Frederick Copleston's A History of Philosophy will recommend the book of the author under review to those instructors of college philosophy who have found the more scholarly work of Father Copleston a little beyond the grasp of their students. An Introduction to Ancient Philosophy covers practically the same ground (with the exception of a very good chapter on St. Augustine) from the same point of view; and its conclusions are, for the most part, practically identical. In its treatment of Plato and Aristotle, for example, it touches the same points, by and large, as those which are treated by Father Copleston, although the latter, since he is writing for the professional student of philosophy, goes about his work in more detail and in a more scientific

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Msgr. John K. Ryan is professor of philosophy at the Catholic University of America, Washington, D. C. He has been a member of the faculty since 1931. Among the books he has written are Basic Principles and Problems of Philosophy and The Catholic School. \$3.00

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HARPER & BROTHERS NEW YORK 16, N. Y. Mr. Armstrong's book to the American reader is its complete freedom from untranslated words and phrases. Not once will the reader be frustrated by a key word or key phrase written in an unknown tongue. Furthermore, Mr. Armstrong possesses the even more unusual and commendable ability to present a detailed and accurate analysis of philosophical systems with a minimum of technical terminology.

He has also made it a point to be succinct in his presenta on; and, on the whole, he has manage ' to be brief without ceasing to be clea In one or two instances, however, a omewhat longer development would . 'e prevented obscurity on points of some importance. In his development of Plato's method of dialectic, for example, the significant words "hypothesis" and "true hypothesis" are used without sufficient indication of their technical meaning in this context. Later on in the book he is over-hasty in his treatment of the difficult Aristotelean theories of substance and accident and matter and form (where the Master himself is far from clear), and his presentation is likely to leave the beginner in some confusion. Confusion on these points, however, is most unfortunate since a clear knowledge of them will be required to follow the author's subsequent exposition of Aristotle's theory of knowledge and the essential role which that theory plays in the "emanation and return" philosophy of

On one or two occasions the brevity of the author may lead to misunder-standings. Such, for example, is his failure to develop more fully what Plato meant by the world of ideas "separate" from the world of sense, or, more important, his statement that "recollection" is the basis of Plato's theory of knowledge. Mere "recollection" of the experiences of a previous existence does not solve the problem of "recognition" which presented itself to Plato and still presents itself to the modern philosopher. Nor did Plato intend "recollection" alone to be his solution.

These obscure passages stand out, however, because of the remarkable clarity of the book in general. The author never fails to state explicitly the filiation of the ancient systems. He takes pains, as well, to acquaint his readers with the Platonic, Aristotelian and Plotinian roots of Scholastic philosophy and to show them at the same time the limitations of the great syntheses of pre-Christian antiquity. He provides his readers, too, with a limited but extremely practical bibliography in which the best modern works on the ancient philosophers are listed.

It is to be regretted, however, that



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when Mr. Armstrong was preparing his lectures for publication he did not choose to annotate his text more fully. By doing so he could have let his readers know more frequently when he is following a specific work of one of the philosophers and when, as in his explanation of Plato's "Mathematica," he is giving one of the many possible interpretations of their thought offered by modern commentators.

GERALD A. McCool, S.J.

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#### EVOLUTION AND THE FOUNDERS OF PRAGMATISM

By Philip P. Weiner. Harvard University Press. 288p. \$5

This study, we are told, is based on a series of investigations into the genesis of what is loosely labeled "American pragmatism." It aims to shed light on those ideas about evolution from which the various meanings of pragmatism emerged in the thinking of Chauncey Wright, Charles S. Peirce, William James, John Fiske, Nicholas St. John Green and Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr. There is a foreword by John Dewey, who points out that the author has made a contribution in showing how to deal with "the philosophical activity of any historical period," by placing philosophical writings "in the setting of a new and vital movement in culture which extends far beyond the confines of technical philosophy."

To this reviewer such praise is not entirely merited, since what the author places "in the setting of a new and vital movement" is not the pragmatic views of these thinkers as projected against their full philosophical pesitions, but rather carefully selected pragmatic elements which conform somewhat neatly to his own strongly held conception of things. These elements add fuel to his obvious animus against the classical traditions of thought and in particular against metaphysics, intellectual certitude and theology. I am very much interested in the work of Peirce, James and Holmes, and not at all interested in seeing them used to bolster up stale stereotypes to which the author clings with die-hard and "infallible" conviction.

Today, when positivism is on the wane among many respected thinkers, it is amazing to find someone so earnestly seeking to rehabilitate the crudest kind of positivism, even equating pragmatism with utilitarianism, while majestically announcing that "natural theology now belongs in the museum of fossilized ideas." Clearly the masterpiece which he has created by sorting out certain elements of the thought of a profound thinker like Peirce while missing the deeper meaning of James, has turned out to be a heady brew.

SJ.

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Weiner's effort to give us the genesis of the various pragmatisms and their common elements has resulted in a caricature, for the reason that the writing is informed by a deeply anti-genetic and anti-historical spirit, all the more surprising in one who is managing editor of the Journal of the History of Ideas. How else characterize a work which wrenches philosophical elements not only out of the whole philosophical position of the thinkers studied, but also out of the fuller context of Western thought and culture? Surely if he had familiarized himself with the important work of historians of philosophy and ideas other than that of Arthur O. Lovejoy-to whom he has dedicated his book-he would have known how deeply rooted in the classical traditions of thought are many of the ideas he associates with the "pragmatic legacy" of American philosophy.

Some day, and we hope that day is not far off, students of those great traditions will demonstrate with what ease important elements of the thought of Peirce and James can be assimilated into the very doctrines despised by the positivists-doctrines in which they will have ample room to thrive and become truly effective. ROBERT C. POLLOCK

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Though intended primarily for the uninitiated college student, the collection would be profitable also for casual use of the post-college student who wishes to refresh himself on some section of England's literature, or to find a starting point for interesting reading. The excellent individual prefaces in the book would be useful to such a reader. The collection is suitable for the study of variety, in form as well as in content, in poetry, the essay, something of the play, non-critical prose and literary criticism.

Introductions by the various authorities are excellent, judicious and suggestive in statement. The writers of these introductions, faced with the difficult task of compressing a comprehensive view into small compass, are successful in varying degrees. All are adequate, very sound in judgment and remarkably free from cant and hollow repetition of trite judgments.

The space accorded writers of the past fifty-four years seems rather small. The general and particular introductory matter in this section is more than half as long as the texts in number of pages. That, I believe, appears a rather dubious proportion for an anthology. It is pleasant to see Eileen Duggan here. One might regret that Beerbohm and Hodgson could not have been included in the company of C. S. Lewis and John Masefield. The presence of Spleen by D. B. Wyndham Lewis is welcomesince his biographies have overshadowed his more competent essays.

The anthology is characterized by sound literary philosophy and excellent scholarship, simply and unpretentiously presented. THOMAS J. M. BURKE

#### SHAKESPEARE'S WORLD OF IMAGES

By Donald A. Stauffer. Norton. 393p. \$5

The title of this book is somewhat deceptive. Shakespeare's World of Images, unlike Caroline Spurgeon's well-known study, has little or nothing to do with Shakespeare's imagery. Rather, as the subtitle indicates, it is concerned with the "development of Shakespeare's moral ideas" and, as such, is an interpretation of all the plays—their meaning and how this meaning illumi-

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nates Shakespear's changing beliefs.

In the best sense, Mr. Stauffer is one of the new critics. To him, the play is the thing. Although he admits that historical studies furnish a certain "esoteric" knowledge, he thinks it is more normal and profitable to move Shakespeare into our own times and thoughts than to translate ourselves back to the year 1600.

There can be little quarrel with Stauffer's basic assumption and method of interpretation: that all great works of art reflect the convictions of their creators, and that these convictions may reasonably be discovered by an author's

choice of subject, his shaping of sources, the judgments implicit or stated in the outcome of his plots, his ventriloquism when characters speak out of key, his undramatic set speeches, his repetitive ideas, his recurrent images, and his choric or touchstone figures.

Mr. Stauffer entertains no illusions that Shakespeare had a completely integrated moral system or philosophy. Rather he stresses the separate sharp and deeply felt insights that controlled and vitalized his art. These insights, he admits, are difficult to arrive at. The dramatic form itself, the complexity of Shakespeare's thought and the changing nature of this thought over a period of twenty years all add to the task of systematic interpretation.

In chronological order Stauffer explains Shakespeare's plays in their many themes and moral problems. In the interpretation of many of the plays there is nothing particularly new; in the interpretation of other plays there is considerable originality. Measure for Measure and Troilus and Cressida, for instance, are skilfully interpreted. The analysis of Richard II, Othello, Lear and Macbeth is distinguished and noteworthy. The most debatable interpretation is that of Antony and Cleopatra: Stauffer argues that Shakespeare is romantically exalting the marriage of true minds, and that the passion of the two lovers is spiritualized and ennobled. Such an interpretation minimizes many choric speeches in the play itself.

In the development of Shakespeare's thought, Stauffer finds definite changes. In general, the plays written before 1600 reflect Shakespeare's assumption of the goodness of human nature in an easy, trustful, joyous acceptance of human life. Beginning with the problem comedies and Hamlet there is a radical change: Shakespeare's trust has turned to doubt, misanthropy and bitterness. Then, with the writing of the dramatic romances, there is a return to the earlier happy frame of mind.

The book is a valuable contribution to the interpretation of Shakespeare, but it is not easy to read. At times it

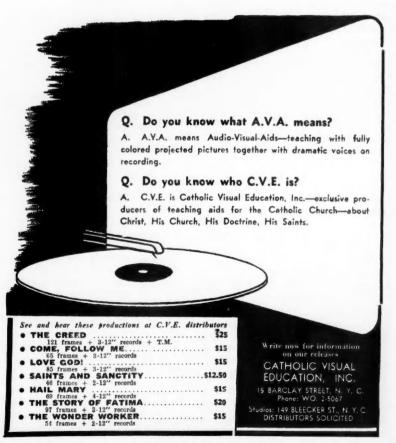
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THE HOLY YEAR IS STILL YOUNG-

but before it is much older we shall be celebrating it with a whole lot of new books: SALVATION OF THE NATIONS by Jean Danielou (\$2, February) is a very good start for any Spring. The apostles, says the author, who so longed for Our Lord's second coming, remembered, as we usually don't, that the whole world had to be converted first—a little job they hoped to accomplish in their own lifetime.

True, there was more world than they knew, and complications developed that they didn't dream of, but still he feels that nearly two thousand years later we might well be a little embarrassed that it still isn't anywhere near done. . . Like the Holy Father, he sees reunion of the Churches as the most urgent problem of our time.

Judging by the popularity of Mr. Sheed's translation of THE CONFESSIONS OF ST. AUGUSTINE (\$3), putting spiritual classics into modern English is a good idea, so we've done it again. This time it's THE IMITATION OF CHRIST (\$2, February) and the fresh translation is by Edgar Daplyn; we found it less soothing than the old versions, much more evidently intended for us.

Also coming in February is the new HOLY YEAR EDITION, revised and enlarged, of John Farrow's PAGEANT OF THE POPES (\$4.50, illustrated); every pope is here from St. Peter to Pius XII, simple men and statesmen, saints and sinners: the papacy in perspective, in fact.

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is overly subtle in the analysis, and a certain diffusiveness of style makes the analytical index at the back of the book extremely helpful. For easier comprehension I suggest that this outline of the thought—and the end chapter called "Postscript"—be studied first.

PAUL E. MCLANE

#### SIR WALTER SCOTT

By Una Pope-Hennessy. English Novelists Series. Alan Swallow, 103p. \$2

#### MRS. GASKELL

By Yvonne Ffrench. English Novelists Series. Alan Swallow. 112p. \$2

The latest volumes in this critical-biographical series fully maintain the standard set by earlier issues. There is nothing casual or off-hand in manner of treatment. Each is solidly written, revealing substantial awareness of works both by and about the subject. Although it is not easy to condense within a hundred pages essential factual information together with adequate critical evaluation of a major literary figure, that feat is here deftly achieved.

Several features of Una Pope-Hennessy's Scott stand out. In the wake of Sir Herbert Grierson's edition of Scott's Letters she makes it abundantly clear that Scott was not driven to prose fiction by the rising of Byron's poetic star. Rather, the creative outpouring of his youth had provided a stock of manuscripts which were ready at hand when, generous as always and this time judicially correct, he recognized the bolder genius of the younger man. It follows not alone that Scott was no apprentice at tale-telling when Waverly was published; equally significant is the fact that the dates of publication have no value for the chronology of the romances. On this matter, and on the integration of Scott's youthful experience with his later writing, Una Pope-Hennessy has written with conviction and illumination.

Her commentary on Scott's attitude toward Catholicism is also informative. Everyone knows Newman's opinion of the influence exerted by Scott's Catholic scenes and Catholic coloring. But Miss Pope-Hennessy traces the growth of Scott's knowledge of Catholicism from The Fair Maid of Perth and Castle Dangerous, in which he sends his characters to High Mass in the evening and uses "Benedicite in the sense of By Gad," to The Monastery and The Abbot, in which he shows genuine familiarity with ecclesiastical matters. Significantly, as Scott's knowledge of the Catholic faith progressed from the reading of Chaucer and Froissart to the study of the Vulgate, the Roman Missal and Fosbroke's British Monachism, his attiBalance in Learning and Living

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tude toward Catholicism also changed. If he never escaped a political distrust for contemporary "Popery," the admiration and respect he came to feel for the Catholic civilizers and civilization of Scotland are sufficient testimony to his largeness of soul.

Yvonne Ffrench's Mrs. Gaskell is likewise condensed and pointed. To the average reader Mrs. Gaskell is the author of Cranford. To the somewhat more bookish she is also the author of a brilliant Life of Charlotte Brontë.
To the pursuer of doctoral researches or the investigator of British social and economic conditions in the mid-nineteenth century, she is the author of Mary Barton and North and South. But always she is a somewhat shadowy feminine figure obscured by the more ample fame of the Brontës and George Eliot. Without exaggerating her virtues, this study helps the reader to a more valid understanding of her versatile MICHAEL F. MOLONEY

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#### THE WORD

"...the boat was covered with waves, but He was asleep. And His disciples came to Him and awakened Him, saying: Lord, save us, we perish ..."

Joe was slumped far back in a chair, his chin on his chest, his legs sprawling in the utter relaxation of youth. "I don't get it," he said. "He's God, isn't He?"

I knew he was not asking a question. He was developing an argument. I waited.

"He knows everything, doesn't He?"
I went on waiting.

Joe shifted his eyes from the toes of his shoes to me. "He knew there was a storm, didn't He? He made the storm. He made the water and the wind and the people in the boat. Why did they have to wake Him up and tell Him about it?"

"Because that was the way He wanted it," I answered.

Joe's eyes went back to the tips of his shoes. He half-grinned. "But why did He want it that way?"

My reply was indirect. "He still wants it that way. He will always want it that way."

His eyes roved toward the kitchen. Suddenly his body jackknifed, and he was through the doorway almost before I knew he had moved. I heard him fastening the little gate across the entrance to the cellar stairway. There was a small wail, and Joe said soothingly, "No, no, Baby. No, no."

My wife and I reached the spot together. She took the baby in her arms and said: "Kiss Joe. Kiss Joe for keeping you from falling down the steps. Kiss him for being such a good brother."

Joe presented his cheek, grinning embarrassedly, but happy to be knighted for heroism. The baby rubbed her nose on his face and wrinkled her little face in smiles.

I rumpled Joe's hair and led him back to the living-room. "Now do you see why God wants things to happen that way?"

He stared at me, puzzled.

"Do you think it's good for Baby to learn to say thank you?" I asked. "Especially when she's saved from being hurt?"

He nodded.

"God could give us everything without our asking," I said. "But it wouldn't be good for us, any more than it would be good for Baby to grow up without learning to love the rest of us. You see, God loves us, even more than we love Baby."

I paused. Joe waited.

"And He wants us to learn to love Him," I finished. "That's why He wants us to pray. We all love to be loved, Joe. So does God. We're His image and likeness, you know."

JOSEPH A. BREIG

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#### THEATRE

THE CORN IS GREEN, by Emlyn Williams, is the second production in the all too brief season sponsored by the New York City Theatre Company. The play was a Broadway hit several years ago, and theatregoers who relish fine acting will remember Eva Le Gallienne's performance in the revival as a delightful experience.

Variations of the Pygmalion myth in drama are almost as numerous as the Cinderella story. The Corn Is Green is a Pygmalion story with the romantic interest taking a significant detour. The original Pygmalion fell in love with his statue; and Shaw's linguist, after changing a guttersnipe into a lady, heard wedding bells ringing in his ears. In The Corn Is Green, Miss Moffat, a spinster school teacher, after discovering latent talent in one of her pupils, fell in love with unfinished business.

Her unfinished business was the career of one Morgan Evans, a pupil in whom Miss Moffat thought she saw a spark of genius. She nurtured his talent to the verge of an Oxford scholarship, only to have his future threatened by the discovery that he was the father of an unwanted baby. Morgan wished to make his parental status legal by marrying the child's mother, but Miss Moffatt persuaded him that, since his genius "belonged to the world," his Oxford scholarship was more important. To relieve her protegé of responsibility, she adopts the baby.

While Miss Moffat had no romantic interest in Morgan, she was in love with his career, as an artist is usually in love with his picture, poem or other creation. She could not stand to have her investment of interest and time in his future frustrated by a trifle like an unwelcome baby. The way she staved off, or at least postponed, frustration, may be satisfying to minds steeped in secularism, but the moral implications are dark. Morgan was not a seducer; he was seduced by a gnat-brained trollop. Did his passive role in an illicit relationship absolve him from the responsibility of a father? Miss Moffat's solution is plausible but ruthless and veers close to the theory that the end justifies the means.

Richard Waring, as the ambitious Morgan, is persuasive as a youth hungry for knowledge. Robin Craven is a properly stuffy country gentleman, and Darthy Hinkley is an effectively disgusting slattern. Since all minor roles are in competent hands, the grim production is at least distinguished by capable acting. Theophilus Lewis



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THE HASTY HEART. Except for the performance of its central role, this somewhat too literal adaptation of John Patrick's stage play would be simply another American film, made in Britain to utilize frozen assets and notable for its refreshing preoccupation with human goodness rather than for any particular distinction in its execution. The scene is a ward in a British Army hospital in Burma. The story concerns itself with a proud and disagreeably anti-social young Scotsman who does not know that he is dying and with the efforts of his ward mates to brighten his

few remaining weeks. None of the supporting roles (played by Patricia Neal Ronald Reagan and some unfamiliar Englishmen) are much more than types, and the writing and direction are rather pedestrian. It is on the credibility of the dour, lonely Scotsman, struggling for the first time in his life to understand the meaning of friendship, that the picture rises or falls. A young man named Richard Todd invests that role.

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which lends itself so easily to caricature or sentimentality, with a stature,
pathos and utter conviction that constitutes one of the most authoritative
pieces of acting in many seasons and
makes the film a worthwhile experience
for the whole family. (Warner Bros.)

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THE TITAN, THE STORY OF MICHELANGELO is a full length documentary on the life and, more especially, on the work of one of the greatest geniuses who ever lived. An American adaptation of a Swiss production, the film uses a remarkable technique. Without live actors, it manages, by means of fluid photography of the locales and works of art involved, by a lucid narrative spoken by Frederic March and by a few ingenious technical tricks, to create a feeling for the life and times of the Renaissance titan as well as to afford a most rewarding opportunity to revel in his masterpieces. That the film is a visual delight is hardly surprising. The unexpected dividend is a full measure of action and excitement as well as a careful and understanding treatment of the difficult religious issues of the period. It is herewith recommended as an artistic guidebook for Holy Year pilgrims and as a treat for stay-at-homes as well. (Michel-MOIRA WALSH angelo Company)

#### PARADE

A BURST OF INTENSE ACTIVITY shot up from the rising generation during the week. . . . In Illinois, a twelveyear-old lad left his comfortable home. set off on foot for the Wild West, Two adults met him on the road, took his cowboy outfit and thirty dollars from his piggy bank. Crestfallen, the lad slunk back to life at home. . . . Tenacity of objective was manifested. . . . In New York, an eleven-year-old boy launched his second unsuccessful putsch to reach Hollywood, where he hopes to make people forget Roy Rogers, the singing cowboy. Minus a ticket, the boy was taken off a train, shipped back to his mama. He had previously crept aboard a TWA plane in New York, gotten as far as St. Louis, whence he was shunted back to the Bronx. . . . The supreme self-confidence of youth was on view. . In New Jersey, a nine-year-old boy, held by police in connection with a series of robberies, told the guardians of the law: "I'm the best second-story man in the business. There isn't a place with a good rain-spout that I can't crack. I became a second-story man three years ago when I was six." . . . While some elements of the rising gen-



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eration were envisaging careers as second-story men, others were dreaming of piracy on the high seas. . . . In Arbreath, Scotland, a fourteen-year-old "sea daft' youth stole a thirty-ton motorship and headed all alone into the North Sea on the first leg of his life's ambition, which is to become a widely known pirate captain. . . . The aggressive attitude of youth begot unusual procedures in the field of penology. . . . In South Carolina, a ten-year-old boy robbed a filling-station in order to buy candy. Sentenced to a year, the boy could not be lodged in the State reform school because he was too young. A way out of the difficulty was found. He was accommodated in the penitentiary, which has no age limit. . . . The curiosity so characteristic of the very young was active during the week. . . . In Chicago, two schoolboys, aged twelve and fourteen, wanted to see a railroad wreck. After breaking into a tool shanty, they piled 500 pounds of tools and equipment on two sets of rails. Minutes later, two trains, carrying 580 passengers, smashed into the obstructions. Somehow or other, both trains managed to stay on the tracks. When the pair were asked why they tried to wreck the trains, one of the boys replied: "It was just a crazy idea. I don't know why we did it. I had read about train wrecks in the newspapers, so I thought we'd try one here. I wanted to see the sparks fly." . . . In another area, youths wanted to see a high school fly. . . . In Pennsylvania, two fourteen-year-old boys who experienced great difficulty in getting passing marks in their studies, tried to blow up a high school with 180 sticks of dynamite. Police interrupted the attempt. Had this youth movement succeeded, police revealed, the lads would have been blown to bits and every building within four blocks would have been leveled.

Here, there and everywhere, mid-century youngsters were blasting away at the social milieu. . . . These youngsters are the products of a fearful divorce. . Some years ago secular education divorced religion and eloped with irreligion. . . . Today's youth, by and large, are brought up by their stepmother. . . . Since God has irrevocably joined religion and education together, no nation may safely put them asunder. ... The one and only hope for a brighter situation in the second half of the century lies in a reconciliation. . . . Education and religion must live together again. JOHN A. TOOMEY

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